

# Long Path



Volume 36 Issue 5

SEMDXA NEWSLETTER

May 2026



## PRES Sez

### Zoom Meeting Link

<https://umich.zoom.us/j/91352970493>

Hi all,

Welcome to May and maybe one day it will start to warm up! But what can I say, its typical Michigan! Be sure to check your antennas and feed lines. Better to do it now before it gets hot out! My dipole that I use for 80/160 was taken out due to wind. I will be fixing that soon.

I'm starting my second month of retirement and I'm surprised how busy I have been. I haven't even started enjoying my hobbies. I have done a little traveling with my Daughter to Florida. Small things around the house. I haven't even started the bigger projects I planed on yet. I really don't know how I had time to actually work.

Projects on tap for the spring/summer and fall are put aluminum over my fascia boards, Finish putting up gutters around the house. Paint the kitchen and paint all the windows inside the house. Once these tasks are done, the outside of the house is good for the next 20 or 30 years. Had a new roof, new skylights installed a few years ago, new driveway and chimney repair done.

Fun projects are building an upbuilt Vintage Heathkit Computer - the H89 with a floppy drive. Also, finishing updating a Heathkit AR1515 Stereo. And playing Radio!

As a reminder, elections for the SEMDXA board are next month. If you would like to be part of the board, please let us know.

I want to thank everyone that attends the meetings, helps with club activities and the website. This is what keeps the club going.

We are looking for a "Program Director" if anyone is interested. In the meantime, if anyone knows of any good presentations, please let the board know and we will see if we can get them signed up. We currently have **NO** presentation for June. If anyone has any ideas, please let me know. I know Fred 1 has many DXpeditions DVDs which we could use for presentations.

(cont'd on next page)

NEXT Meeting:

**Gino's**  
**Keego Harbor**  
**May 20th**

**Program**

**J51A - Guinea-Bissau**

**DXpedition**

by

**Uli Ann**

**DM5EE/KK8I**

**(Our Club Member)**

#### SEMDXA OFFICERS

*President:* Fred Goeckel, **KD8ZYD**

*Vice-president:* Pete Gladysz, **K8PGJ**

*Treasurer:* Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

*Secretary:* Brad Nowak, **N8SNM**

*Program Director:* Fred Goeckel,  
**KD8ZYD**

*Director:* Doug Basberg, **N8VY**

#### Club Appointees:

*Web Site Editor:* Doug Basberg, **N8VY**

*LP Publisher:* Fred Goeckel, **KD8ZYD**

#### ARRL and CQ Appointees:

*DXCC Checker:* Stan Arnett, **AC8W**

*DXCC Checker:* Bill Jones, **N8KF**

*VUCC Checker:* Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

*VUCC Checker:* Jim Sanford, **K8ZZU**

*CQ Checker:* Mike Rudzki, **N8MR**

*CQ Checker:* Al Bailey, **K8SIX**

## Prez Sez

(continued from page 1)

I have made progress on countries/entities that I have made contact with. Last reported I am at 296 contacts to different countries/entities and 287 are confirmed. I am now at 296 with 288 confirmed. Even more progress!! I'm 4 away from 300 contacts and only 12 away from 300 confirmed!! By the next meeting I hope to have around 292 confirmed.

Our board for SEMDXA, all volunteered to stay on the board in the same positions for the 2025/2026 season. The Prez – 73's

- President: Fred Goeckel, KD8ZYD
- Vice President: Pete Gladysz, K8PGJ
- Secretary: Brad N8SNM / Fred KD8ZYD
- Treasurer: Brad Nowak, N8SNM
- Program Director: Needed**

## J51A DXpedition



## Meeting Minutes

### MEETING MINUTES

Meeting called to order by President Fred KD8ZYD @ 6:43pm

Introductions with 26 members in attendance.

Feb. Minutes published in Long Path. Move to accept, Fred W1SKU 1<sup>st</sup>. Al k\*SIX 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed

Treasurers Report by Treasurer Brad - N8SNM. Motion to accept by Doug N8VY 1<sup>st</sup>. Lee N8LJ 2<sup>nd</sup>, Passed.

### NEW BUSINESS

### DUES ARE DUE.

President discussed Upcoming DXpedition 9T0MD to Democratic Republic of Congo. Motion to donate \$100 approved by yea vote.

The Vibroplex Key donated to SEMDXA by the late Chet Latawiec VE3CFK was discussed further. It was agreed that the key would be auctioned off to the SEMDXA members. Starting BID to be \$200. The president to send email to members to solicit BIDs.

Presentation on 3Y0K DXpedition to Bouvet Island given by SEMDXA member Dennis KT8X. 14 operators and 5 support members. Departed Cape Town on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>. On island 14 days. Travel at sea took 6 days each way. Team returned to Cape Town Mar. 21<sup>st</sup>. 3Y0K DXpedition considered a success! Q & A followed.

Motion to adjourn meeting @ 8:18 pm by President Fred.

# Ask AI

Fred, KD8ZYD asked Microsoft CoPilot to write - write 5 paragraphs on How the Rig Expert AA-230 Zoom work when analyzing Antennas and Coax Cable ? This is what was said!

## The Rig Expert AA-230 Zoom

The Rig Expert AA-230 Zoom is a sophisticated antenna analyzer designed for radio enthusiasts and professionals. It operates by sending a signal through the antenna or coax cable and measuring the response across a wide frequency range. This allows users to assess the performance and integrity of their antenna systems without the need for complex laboratory equipment. The device's intuitive interface and clear graphical displays make it accessible even for those new to antenna analysis.

When analyzing antennas, the AA-230 Zoom performs a sweep of frequencies and measures key parameters such as the Standing Wave Ratio (SWR), impedance, and return loss. These measurements are crucial for determining how well an antenna is matched to its feed line and transmitter. A low SWR indicates efficient transmission of radio signals, while a high SWR suggests issues such as mismatches, broken elements, or incorrect cable lengths. By visualizing these results directly on its screen, the analyzer helps users quickly identify potential problems.

For coax cable analysis, the AA-230 Zoom can detect faults such as breaks, shorts, or areas of high loss. By connecting the analyzer to one end of the cable and performing a sweep, the device can pinpoint the location and nature of the fault. The time-domain reflectometry (TDR) function is particularly useful for this purpose, as it allows users to determine the distance to a fault based on the reflected signal. This ensures that cable issues are diagnosed accurately and efficiently, minimizing downtime and unnecessary replacements.

The AA-230 Zoom also offers advanced features like frequency scanning, graphical plotting, and data storage. Users can record measurements for later review or export data to a computer for more detailed analysis. This is especially helpful when comparing antennas or cables over time, or when troubleshooting intermittent issues. The ability to display graphs of SWR or impedance across frequencies gives a clear picture of antenna performance, helping users make informed decisions about adjustments or repairs.

Overall, the Rig Expert AA-230 Zoom streamlines the process of antenna and coax cable analysis by providing fast, accurate, and user-friendly measurements. Its portability and versatility make it an ideal tool for fieldwork or bench testing, enabling users to optimize their radio setups with confidence. Whether for amateur radio, commercial communications, or research, the AA-230 Zoom is a valuable asset for ensuring reliable signal transmission and system efficiency.

## Dennis - KT8X

Dennis, KT8X is now the Great Lakes Division Representative to the DX Advisory Committee. If you have any questions or request, please reach out to Dennis. Or better yet, please attend a meeting and we can all hear the request.

## VP0SG - South Georgia 2027

South Georgia is current scheduled for March 2027. They have secured a vessel and have put the first deposit down. The vessel is MV MEREDIAN. What is interesting on this, they have just signed up the 2nd "young" operator for this DXpedition. More to follow.

## XT - Burkina Faso

DF2SWO, aka D44TWO AND 9X2AW, Harald, goes again to Ouagadougou, callsign XT2AW, May 5-19.

Harald plans to be on HF and the QO-100 satellite and he welcomes skeds. He will have an FT991A, a hexbeam and multiband dipoles for 160-30

**Thank you to Bernie, W3UR, The Daily DX, The Weekly DX, ARRL and dx.radio, NG3K, CLUBLOG, Dales Tales and DX News.com for their contributions**

## EK - Armenia

August 17th a new Youth on the Air call will be on, EK0YOTA. "YOTA month" is this December. Some of the operators of EK0YOTA will be EK6ONL, EK6RF, EK6OTK and EK6OMZ. They plan to be on all bands, SSB and CW. QSL direct to the mailing address they have on their QRZ page

## T8 - Palau

June 10-18 T88RR will be on 160, 80, 40, 30, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10 and 6M, FT8, FT4, SSB, FM on 10M. The operator is JA6UBY, "Yas." He will upload the log to LoTW and eQSL. For a paper QSL, send direct with SASE. He will also answer bureau requests, he says.

## 3Y/P - Peter 1

Peter I Expedition team are seeking more operators

We just finished our very successful Bouvet expedition, and we are building on that experience as we continue to Peter I Island, a Norwegian dependency in the Bellinghousen Sea. Our Peter I expedition container is enroute from Cape Town to Texas with all the expedition gear, at the same time we are working out the details regarding this expedition.

The Peter I team are seeking more team players that can operate during the expedition, as we need to complete the team within reasonable time. With Peter I Island currently ranked #7 on the most wanted list, this is set to be as challenging and complex as the Bouvet expedition.

<https://3y01.com>

## E5/S - South Cook Islands

Since April 23 E51RWK has been QRV on FT8 only on 40, 20, 10 meters. We don't know who this is but have on good authority the license for that call has been issued but "No further details were provided".

## ZL7 - Chatham Islands

ZL3IO, Holger, is heading back to Waitangi, Chatham Islands where he will be QRV as ZL7IO from May 25 to June 4, including the CQ WPX CW Contest as an SOAB entry. QSL via DK7AO

## H4 - Solomon Islands

EA1CS, Luis, reports the callsign assigned for the upcoming October 2026 Solomon Islands DXpedition is H49A, as officially designated by the Solomon Islands Telecommunications Commission (TCSI).

## CE0Y - Easter Island

3G0YM is an expedition to Easter Island, also known as Rapa Nui. It is planned for June with operator CE3YMR, Manu. Manu will be on 40, 20, 10 and 6M, FT8 and SSB. He says it will be relaxed, holiday style, but also giving out as many contacts as he can. This is his second time going there and getting on the air.

## Hamfests

### Michigan Hamfests (April–July 2026)

**April 11, 2026** — AC8RC Mini-Swap (Burnips, MI) Sponsor: AC8RC [ARRL](#)

**April 18, 2026** — SJCARC Hamfest (Centreville, MI) Sponsor: SJCMIARC [ARRL](#)

**May 2, 2026** — Crossroads Hamfest (Marshall, MI) Sponsor: Southern Michigan Amateur Radio Society [ARRL](#)

**May 2, 2026** — Wexaukee ARC Swap & Shop (Cadillac, MI) Sponsor: Wexaukee Amateur Radio Club [ARRL](#)

**May 9, 2026** — General Motors ARC Swap Meet (Shelby Township, MI) Sponsor: GMARC [ARRL](#)

**June 5–6, 2026** — LARS Yooper Hamfest (Newberry, MI) Sponsor: Luce County Amateur Radio Society [ARRL](#)

**June 6, 2026** — IRA Hamfest (Hudsonville, MI) Sponsor: Independent Repeater Association [ARRL](#)

**June 20, 2026** — Midland ARC Swap (Midland, MI) Sponsor: Midland Amateur Radio Club [ARRL](#)

**June 21, 2026** — Monroe Hamfest (Monroe, MI) Sponsor: Monroe County Radio Communications Asso. [Hamfest - Monroe County Radio Communications Association](#)

*(No Michigan hamfests are currently listed for July 2026.)*

### Ohio Hamfests (April–July 2026)

**April 11, 2026** — Cuyahoga Falls ARC 70th Hamfest (Cuyahoga Falls, OH) Sponsor: CFARC [arrrl-ohio.org](#)

**April 25, 2026** — Tusco ARC Hamfest & Elec-

# PERIODIC TABLE OF SELECT AMATEUR RADIO CONTESTS

# 2026

Start Day (UTC) 1 2 End Day (UTC)  
 Start Time (UTC) 0000Z 2359Z End Time (UTC)  
 Contest Name  
 Select Contest of weekend as chosen by N3QE

off-the-air SSB VHF/UHF  
 Multimode CW Digital

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
3 1800Z ARRL RTTY Roundup	4 2400Z SSB Sprint	1 0000Z ARRL DX SSB	17 0359Z ARRL DX SSB	8 1500Z SP Polish DX	4 1500Z varies 7QP/IN/DE New England QSO Parties	5 varies ARRL Digital	2 1800Z Marconi Memorial HF	6 2400Z NAQP CW	3 0600Z All Asian DX SSB	6 1600Z California QSO Party	3 2159Z SSB Sprint	1 0000Z ARRL 160
10 1800Z NAQP CW	11 0559Z NA Sprint CW	8 0359Z NA Sprint RTTY	15 0000Z JIDX CW	15 0359Z Volta WW RTTY	11 0700Z ARRL June VHF	12 1300Z IARU HF WRTC 2026	8 1200Z WAE CW	9 2359Z WAE SSB	12 0000Z Oceania CW	13 2359Z ARRL SS CW	10 0600Z ARRL 10	7 0600Z ARRL 10
17 1800Z NAQP SSB	18 0559Z CQ WPX RTTY	14 0000Z BARTG HF RTTY	21 0200Z CQMM DX	23 0200Z Contest University Dayton Hamvention	18 1100Z All Asian DX CW	19 2000Z NAQP RTTY	15 1800Z NAQP SSB	16 0600Z SAC CW	19 1200Z Worked All Germany	20 1200Z WAE RTTY	17 1500Z Croatian DX	18 1459Z Croatian DX
23 2200Z CQ 160 CW	25 2200Z ARRL DX CW	21 0000Z CQ WPX SSB	22 2359Z Florida QSO Party	28 0000Z Hamvention 2026	25 1800Z ARRL Field Day	15 0000Z RSGB IOTA	17 2400Z KH6/OH QSO Parties	27 1200Z CQ WW RTTY	26 0000Z CQ WW SSB	23 varies ARRL SS SSB	26 1500Z Stew Perry Topband	27 1500Z Stew Perry Topband
	28 1800Z NAQP RTTY	1 0559Z NAQP RTTY		30 0000Z CQ WPX CW	31 2400Z CQ WPX CW		29 1200Z WW Digi	30 1200Z WW Digi			28 0000Z CQ WW CW	29 2400Z CQ WW CW

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<https://Radiosport.World/>

## ZOOM Meeting

If you cannot attend in-person to our monthly meetings, you have the option to join us via ZOOM.

For those not familiar with ZOOM, please refer to the 2020 October or November issues of The Long Path which are accessible online on the SEMDXA Website for details on how to setup your computer for a ZOOM meeting.

Use the one step process and just click on the link below to join upcoming meetings.

<https://umich.zoom.us/j/91352970493?pwd=N0t3N1RpUFZjVGQzZHZwTnU0bHpUUT09>

## VU7 - Lakshadweep

For the upcoming AU7RS expedition, the operating permit has arrived, good through February 15. VU2RS, Sarath, says they plan to have it extended and make additional payments for the stay, and be on as many days as possible. Permission from the "WPC" has also been extended, until February 25. The return tickets are open-ended. The time extension will be based on the support they receive. Their PayPal is [info@sreetek.com](mailto:info@sreetek.com). More info is on their website: [www.vu2rs.com/vu7r](http://www.vu2rs.com/vu7r). The QSL manager is M0OXO

## For SALE

Do you have something for sale? Please send me the details and I will list it here.

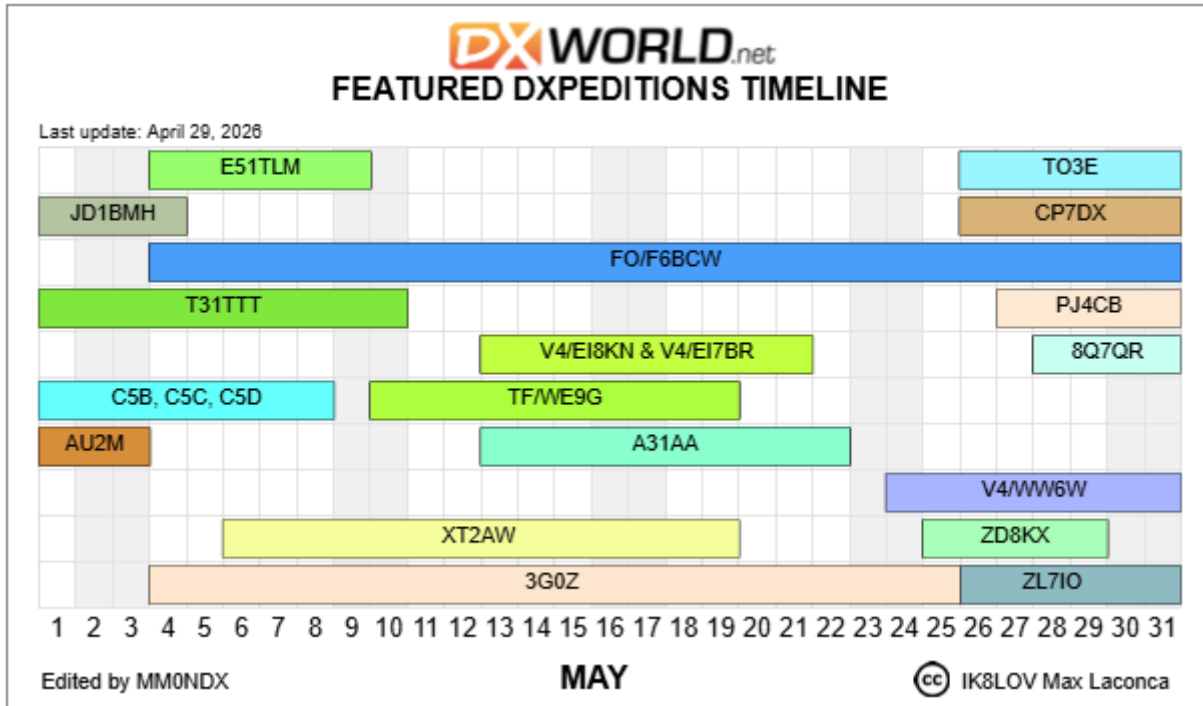
## CLUBLOG

### Most wanted - Top 38

1	P5	<a href="#">DPRK (NORTH KOREA)</a>
2	EZ	<a href="#">TURKMENISTAN</a>
3	BS7H	<a href="#">SCARBOROUGH REEF</a>
4	FT5/X	<a href="#">KERGUELEN ISLAND</a>
5	KH7K	<a href="#">KURE ISLAND</a>
6	KH3	<a href="#">JOHNSTON ISLAND</a>
7	BV9P	<a href="#">PRATAS ISLAND</a>
8	CE0X	<a href="#">SAN FELIX ISLANDS</a>
9	YK	<a href="#">SYRIA</a>
10	3Y/P	<a href="#">PETER 1 ISLAND</a>
11	YV0	<a href="#">AVES ISLAND</a>
12	VK0M	<a href="#">MACQUARIE ISLAND</a>
13	KH4	<a href="#">MIDWAY ISLAND</a>
14	XZ	<a href="#">MYANMAR</a>
15	PY0S	<a href="#">SAINT PETER AND PAUL ROCKS</a>
16	FT/T	<a href="#">TROMELIN ISLAND</a>
17	1S	<a href="#">SPRATLY ISLANDS</a>
18	VP0S	<a href="#">SOUTH SANDWICH ISLANDS</a>
19	JD/M	<a href="#">MINAMI TORISHIMA</a>
20	3Y/B	<a href="#">BOUVET ISLAND</a>
21	ZL9	<a href="#">NEW ZEALAND SUBANTARCTIC ISLANDS</a>
22	ZS8	<a href="#">PRINCE EDWARD &amp; MARION ISLANDS</a>
23	VK0H	<a href="#">HEARD ISLAND</a>
24	SV/A	<a href="#">MOUNT ATHOS</a>
25	R1F	<a href="#">FRANZ JOSEF LAND</a>
26	FT/J	<a href="#">JUAN DE NOVA, EUROPA</a>
27	FK/C	<a href="#">CHESTERFIELD ISLANDS</a>
28	ZL8	<a href="#">KERMADEC ISLAND</a>
29	XX9	<a href="#">MACAO</a>
30	JX	<a href="#">JAN MAYEN</a>
31	VK9M	<a href="#">MELLISH REEF</a>
32	S2	<a href="#">BANGLADESH</a>
33	VQ9	<a href="#">CHAGOS ISLANDS</a>
34	FT5Z	<a href="#">AMSTERDAM &amp; ST PAUL ISLANDS</a>
35	FT/G	<a href="#">GLORIOSO ISLAND</a>
36	VP0G	<a href="#">SOUTH GEORGIA ISLAND</a>
37	VK9W	<a href="#">WILLIS ISLAND</a>
38	PY0T	<a href="#">TRINDADE &amp; MARTIM VAZ ISLANDS</a>

# Upcoming DX

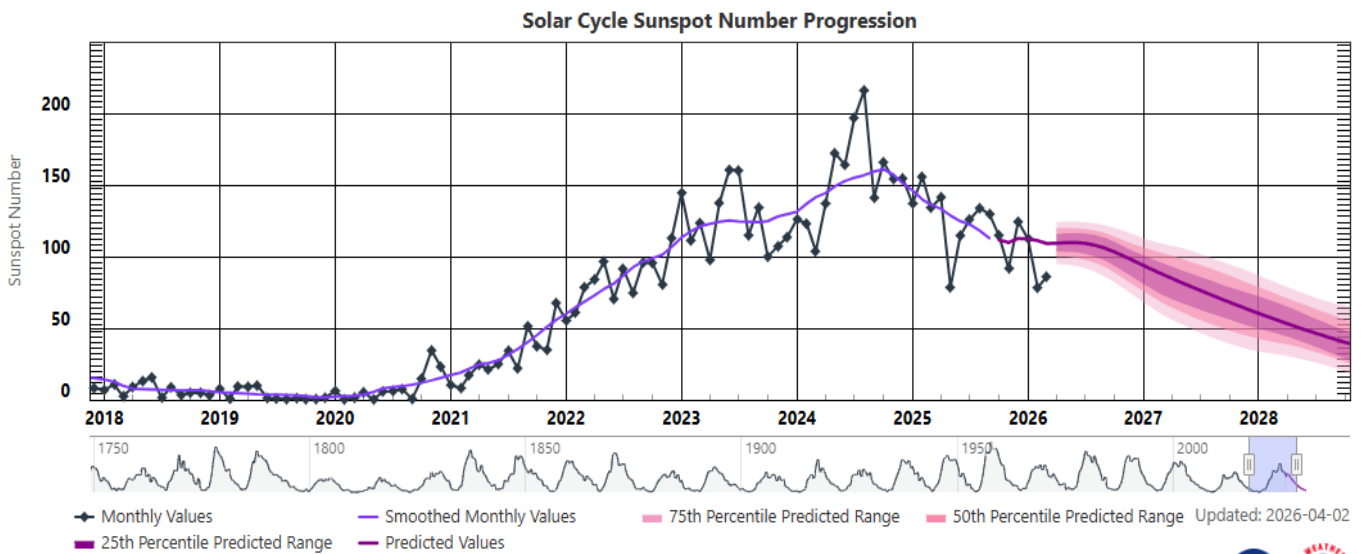
# Credit to DX World



## SOLAR CYCLE 25

## NOAA/SWPC

SWPC / NOAA



## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

May					
2026 May02	2026 May10	St Barthelemy	<b>FJ</b> NEW [spots]	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260504
2026 May04	2026 May09	South Cook Is	<b>E51TLM</b> [spots]	K7TLM (B/d)	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260410
2026 May05	2026 May19	Burkina Faso	<b>XT2AW</b>	M0OXO OQRS	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260425
2026 May05	2026 Jul20	French Polynesia	<b>FO</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260330
2026 May08	2026 May09	Jersey	<b>MJ</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260403
2026 May10	2026 May19	Iceland	<b>TF</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260426
2026 May13	2026 May21	St Kitts & Nevis	<b>V4</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20250423
2026 May14	2026 May22	Tonga	<b>A31AA</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20250325
2026 May17	2026 May19	Wales	<b>MW</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20250415
2026 May20	2026 Jun19	Namibia	<b>V5</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260327
2026 May24	2026 Jun01	St Kitts & Nevis	<b>V4</b>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20250904
2026 May25	2026 May28	Ascension I	<b>ZD8KX</b>	eQSL	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20260424
2026 May25	2026 May30	Cyprus SBA	<b>ZC4RH</b> NEW	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20260504
2026 May25	2026 Jun03	Chatham Is	<b>ZL7IO</b>	LoTW	ZL3IO 20260409
2026 May26	2026 Jun02	Martinique	<b>TO3E</b>	LoTW	AB2E 20260110
2026 May26	2026 Jun06	Bolivia	<b>CP7DX</b>	Club Log OQRS	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260415
2026 May27	2026 Jun08	Bonaire	<b>PJ4CB</b>	WA7RAR Direct	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260319
2026 May28	2026 Jun01	Maldives	<b>8Q7QR</b>	JJ1DQR	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260330

Editors NOTE:

I've intentionally left a wide margin here for your notes on band and mode fills required.

## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio  
Contest/DX Page

June					
2026 Jun03	2026 Jun12	Tanzania	5H1KB	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260309
2026 Jun08	2026 Jul07	Tanzania	<a href="#">5H3DX</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260409
2026 Jun10	2026 Jun18	Palau	T88AR	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20251202
2026 Jun10	2026 Jun24	St Martin	FS	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260122
2026 Jun12	2026 Jun29	Curacao	<a href="#">PJ2</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260120
2026 Jun19	2026 Jun22	Palau	T88TB	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20251202
2026 Jun20	2026 Jun22	Armenia	EK	DL2JRM (B/d)	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260311
2026 Jun27	2026 Jul14	St Pierre & Miquelon	<a href="#">FP</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260302
July					
2026 Jul22	2026 Aug14	South Cook Is	E51KEE	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260317
2026 Jul23	2026 Aug08	Azerbaijan	4K	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260207
<a href="#">RSGB IC</a>					
2026 Jul26	2026 Aug06	South Cook Is	E51CZZ	IK2DUW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260317
August					
2026 Aug05	2026 Aug10	Bahamas	C6AYM	LoTW	K9GY 20260315
2026 Aug15	2026 Aug22	St Lucia	J68TT	LoTW	N4XXT 20250824
September					
2026 Sep01	2026 Sep12	Grenada	J3	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260418
2026 Sep01	2026 Sep14	Franz Josef Land	<a href="#">RI1FJL</a> <small>NEW</small>	LoTW	PA3CWN 20260429
2026 Sep30	2026 Oct11	Dem Rep Congo	<a href="#">9T0MD</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">OPDX</a> 20260317

## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio Contest/DX Page

<b>October</b>					
2026 Oct17	2026 Oct31	<b>Sao Tome &amp; Principe I</b>	<a href="#">S9R</a> <small>NEW</small>	TBA	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20260501
<a href="#">CQWW DX</a>					
<b>November</b>					
2026 Nov09	2026 Nov20	<b>Mozambique</b>	<a href="#">C8K</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">TDDX</a> 20260409
<a href="#">CQWW DX</a>					
<b>2027</b>					
<b>February</b>					
2027 Feb01	2027 Feb28	<b>Peter I</b>	<a href="#">3Y0L</a>	LoTW	<a href="#">DXW.Net</a> 20260409

## Upcoming DX

Credit to: NG3K Amateur Radio  
Contest/DX Page